

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 145788 TOSEC 070006

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OVIP, (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: EXTENDED JUNE 22 CABLE HIGHLIGHTS

FOLLOWING ARE EXTENDED CABLE HIGHLIGHTS FOR JUNE 22:

1. SPAIN: TOWARD A CENTRIST PARTY

SUAREZ REPORTEDLY NOW WISHES TO TURN HIS UNION OF THE
DEMOCRATIC CENTER (UCD) INTO A SINGLE POLITICAL PARTY.
A PRINCIPLE UCD FIGURE FEARS THIS WILL BE SEEN AS
OLD-REGIME POLITICS, BUT FEELS MOST UCD FACTIONS WILL
SUPPORT SUAREZ' PROGRAMS IN ANY CASE. (MADRID 4730,
CONFIDENTIAL/EXDIS).

2. EC MIDDLE EAST STATEMENT IN THE WORKS

A BRITISH OFFICIAL WHO ATTENDED THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS'
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COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 21 TOLD EMBASSY BRUSSELS THAT AN
AGREED TEXT EXISTS AND THAT IT IS "90 PERCENT CERTAIN"
THAT IT WILL BE ISSUED AT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 29-30. (BRUSSELS 6536, CONFIDENTIAL/EXDIS)

3. BEGIN BEGINS

IN HIS FIRST TWO ACTS AS PRIME MINISTER, HE GRANTED ASYLUM TO A GROUP OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES AND ACCEPTED PRESIDENT CARTER'S "HEARTFELT AND WARM" INVITATION TO VISIT. (TEL AVIV 6839, UNCLASSIFIED)

4. US-BRITISH AVIATION AGREEMENT: BENEFITS AND CONCESSIONS

THE US GAINED SCHEDULING RIGHTS WHICH EMBASSY LONDON SAYS WILL GIVE US CARRIERS IMPROVED OPERATING FLEXIBILITY MORE THAN COMPENSATING FOR THE LOSS OF OTHER OVERSEAS TRAFFIC RIGHTS. (LONDON 10342, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

5. HISTADRUT ELECTIONS: SURPRISING LABOR MARGIN

WHILE LIDUD'S VOTE INCREASED SOMEWHAT OVER THAT ACHIEVED FOUR YEARS AGO, LABOR PARTY AND HISTADRUT LEADERS CLAIM LABOR'S VICTORY REFLECTS ANXIETY OVER LIKUD'S PLANNED SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC POLICY. (TEL AVIV 4535, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

6. BONN'S VIEW OF GENSCHER/BREZHNEV CONVERSATIONS

FOREIGN OFFICE STATE SECRETARY VAN WELL SAID THAT BREZHNEV'S TOPICS INCLUDED PUZZLING REFERENCES TO RENEGOTIATING THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT ON BERLIN, A SECRET

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DESIRE FOR LONG TERM ECONOMIC COOPERATION, HIS APPRAISAL OF AND QUESTIONS ABOUT PRESIDENT CARTER, AND ATTEMPTS TO PLAY UP US-FRG DIFFERENCES. (BONN 10411, CONFIDENTIAL/EXCIS)

7. GHANA: A PLAGUE ON ALL HOUSES IN RHODESIAN DISPUTE

ACCRA CONTINUES TO BE EVEN-HANDED IN PUBLIC AMONG NATIONALIST GROUPS, BUT ACHEAMPONG IS PRIVATELY DISGUSTED BY THEIR FACTIONALISM AND DEEPLY DISTRUSTFUL OF NKOMO AND MUGABE. (ACCRA 4724, CONFIDENTIAL)

8. US-SOVIET TALKS ON DEMILITARIZING INDIAN OCEAN

THE OPENING SESSION MADE CLEAR THAT MOSCOW WILL PRESS FOR ASYMMETRICAL US REDUCTIONS TO REDUCE OUR MILITARY ADVANTAGE RATHER THAN USE ITS MBFR FORMULA, WHICH CALLS FOR EQUAL PERCENTAGE REDUCTIONS. (MOSCOW 8997, SECRET)

9. EGYPT TONING DOWN PRESS ATTACKS ON SOVIETS

THE BITTERNESS AND VOLUME OF ANTI-SOVIET ATTACKS HAVE

DECREASED SINCE THE FAHMY/GROMYKO MEETING IN MOSCOW, BUT SADAT AND THE PRESS HAVE EXPRESSED LITTLE OPTIMISM ABOUT THE LIKELIHOOD OF "CONCRETE MEASURES" TOWARD RECONCILIATION. IT APPEARS EGYPT WILL TAKE A PUBLIC STANCE OF QUALIFIED SATISFACTION IN HOPES THAT GROMYKO WILL BRING SOMETHING SUBSTANTIAL WHEN AND IF HE ARRIVES IN CAIRO. (CAIRO 10442, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

10. SPAIN: A VICTORY FOR MODERATION

EMBASSY MADRID CONCLUDES THAT THE ONLY WINNERS OF THE ELECTIONS WERE THOSE -- SUAREZ AND GONZALEZ-- WHO PROTRAYED THEMSELVES AS MODERATE MEN OF THE FUTURE. THE RELATIVELY LOW COMMUNIST VOTE CONFIRMS SUAREZ' WISDOM
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IN LEGALIZING THE PARTY AND DEFUSING THE ISSUE.
(MADRID 4652, JUNE 22)

11. EC MAY CUT OFF AID TO UGANDA

THE BRITISH ARE URGING THE COMMUNITY TO BRING ECONOMIC PRESSURE ON AMIN'S REGIME, BUT IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHETHER AID CUTOFFS ARE LEGALLY OR POLITICALLY FEASIBLE. (BRUSSELS 6535, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)
CHRISTOPHER

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